

Application Serial Number 10/566483
Response to Office Action dated 07/13/2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent resin particle comprising:
a crosslinked polymer (A) including, as essential constituent units, a water-soluble vinyl monomer (a1), and/or a vinyl monomer (a2) that is formed into the water-soluble vinyl monomer (a1) by hydrolysis, and an internal crosslinking agent (b); and
a hydrophobic substance (C),
wherein

the absorbent resin particle has a structure such that a part or an entirety of the hydrophobic substance (C) is contained in the inside of each particle of the absorbent resin particle; and

the hydrophobic substance (C) is at least one hydrophobic substance selected from the group consisting of a hydrophobic substance (C1) containing a hydrocarbon group, a hydrophobic substance (C2) containing a hydrocarbon group having a fluorine atom, and a hydrophobic substance (C3) having a polysiloxane structure.

2. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the structure such that a part or an entirety of the hydrophobic substance (C) is contained in the inside of each particle of the absorbent resin particle is a structure such that each particle of the absorbent resin particle contains a connection (RC) formed with the hydrophobic substance (C).

3. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the structure such that a part or an entirety of the hydrophobic substance (C) is contained in the inside of each particle of the absorbent resin particle is a structure such

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that a material (D) obtained by coating or impregnating a part or an entirety of either a hydrophilic material (d1) or a hydrophobic material (d2) with the hydrophobic substance (C) is contained in the inside of each particle of the absorbent resin particle.

4. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the hydrophobic substance (C) has a HLB value in a range of 1 to 10.

5. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the hydrophobic substance (C) is a silicone or a modified silicone.

6. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, further comprising a diffusing-penetrating agent (E) as a constituent component.

7. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the absorbent resin particle exhibits a diffusion absorption amount in a range of 40 ml to 70 ml.

8. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the absorbent resin particle exhibits an absorption time (Z) in a range of 0.5 minute to 3.5 minutes, the absorption time being a time necessary for the absorbent resin particle to swell to 70 percent by volume with respect to a saturated swelling degree by absorbing physiological saline.

9. (Previously Presented) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein
the absorbent resin particle satisfies formulae (2) and (3):

$$30 \leq (X) \leq 70 \quad (2)$$

$$(Z) \leq -0.0071(Y) + 2.7 \quad (3)$$

where

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(X) represents a water-retention amount (g/g) of the absorbent resin particle that had been immersed in physiological saline for one hour,

(Y) represents a liquid permeation rate (ml/min) under loading of 2.14k Pa at which physiological saline permeates the absorbent resin particle that has been immersed in physiological saline for one hour, and

(Z) represents an absorption time (min) necessary for a sample to swell to 70 percent by volume with respect to a saturated swelling degree by absorbing physiological saline.

10. (Original) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 9, wherein the absorbent resin particle further satisfies formula (4):

$$10 \leq (Y) \leq 100 \quad (4)$$

11. (Original) An absorber comprising:
the absorbent resin particle according to claim 1; and
a fibrous material.

12. (Original) An absorbent article comprising an absorber according to claim 11.

13. (Previously Presented) An absorbent resin particle having a diffusion absorption amount in a range of 40 ml to 70 ml.

14. (New) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein a weight average particle diameter of the absorbent resin particle is 100 μm to 800 μm .

15. (New) The absorbent resin particle according to claim 1, wherein a content of the hydrophobic substance (C) is 0.001 wt% to 3 wt% based on a weight of the crosslinked polymer (A).